



ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY February 5, 2014

The Environmental Board convened in a public hearing meeting on Wednesday, February 5, 2014, at City Hall Council Chambers. 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas 78701

Board Members in Attendance:

Robert Deegan, Mary Gay Maxwell, James Schissler, Brian Smith and Jennifer Walker

Board Members in Absent:

Mary Ann Neely

Marisa Perales

Staff in Attendance:

Pharr Andrews

Andrew Clamann

Chuck Lesniak

Marilla Shepherd

Cari Buetow

Chris Herrington

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. INTRODUCTION OF NEW ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEMBER

This item was conducted as posted.

3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS: GENERAL

Speaker should sign up to speak prior to the meeting being called to order; you will receive a three-minute allotment to discuss topics not posted on the agenda.

There was one speaker that signed up to speak on other agenda items:

Paul Robbins signed up to speak on agenda item 4Ci.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, AND ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICERS REPORT

a. Approve the minutes of the Environmental Board regular meeting of January 15, 2014.

January 15, 2014 minutes were approved on Board member Roberts Deegan's motion and James Schissler second. Vote 4-0-1-2. Board members Mary Ann Neely and Marisa Perales were absent.

b. Approve the minutes of the Water Quality Regulations Committee of January 21, 2014.

January 21, 2014 minutes were approved on Board member Mary Gay Maxwell's motion and Jennifer Walker's second. Vote 2-0-0-1. WQR Committee member Mary Ann Neely was absent

c. Environmental Officer's report on hot topics and past Board actions – Chuck Lesniak, Watershed Protection Department

i. Update on status of code amendments regarding the use of aggregate in landscaping. This item was conducted as posted. Board member Robert Deegan requested that the draft ordinance be reviewed by the Environmental Board Development

Committee prior to full review by the Board. Board member Jennifer Walker requested that written feedback from Austin Energy and Austin Water Utility Conservation be included along with the draft ordinance when the Development Committee meets. She also requested that a representative from Austin Energy and Austin Water Conservation attend the meeting.

5. BOARD BUSINESS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Discuss and consider a recommendation regarding the Urban Forest Plan – Chair, Environmental Board Development Committee
This item was conducted as posted. No action taken.
- b. Discuss the Watershed Protection Dept.'s rescued plant nursery and plant rescues as mitigation for variance requests. - Mary Ann Neely, Environmental Board Water Quality Regulations Committee Chair and Mateo Scoggins, Watershed Protection Department .
This item was postponed until the 2/19/2014 Environmental Board meeting.
- c. Proposal for New Environmental Board Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, Environmental Board Chair
This item was conducted as posted. Pharr Andrews and Cari Buetow, Dept. of Transportation Strategic Planning Division, provided information regarding management of air quality programs in the City of Austin. Recommendation approved on Board member Jennifer Walker's motion and seconded by Board member James Schissler. Vote: 5-0-0-2. Board members Mary Ann Neely and Marisa Perales were absent.

6. STAFF BRIEFING

- a. Results of a pilot project to stabilize the shoreline and restore wetland vegetation using bioengineering – Andrew Clamann, Watershed Protection Department”
This item was conducted as posted. No action taken.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Update on the Joint Environmental/Parks Board Subcommittee – Mary Ann Neely, Jennifer Walker, and James Schissler, P.E. **Jennifer Walker and James Schissler reported on this item.**
- b. Urban Growth Policy Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, James Schissler, P. E., and Marisa Perales. **No report this week.**
- c. Water Treatment Plant #4 Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, Robin Gary and Mary Ann Neely - **No report this week.**
- d. Development Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, Marisa Perales, Robert Deegan, and James Schissler, P.E. - **Report listed above. There was a consensus with no opposition that Board member Robert Deegan chair the Development Committee.**
- e. Water Quality Regulations Committee – Mary Ann Neely, Chair, and Jennifer Walker. **Report listed above. No report this week.**
- f. Watershed Protection Budget Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell and Mary Ann Neely
No report this week.
- g. Other reports from Board members. **No report this week. Board member Mary Gay Maxwell reported on the Board and Commissions Taskforce 10-1 Transition.**

8. NEW BUSINESS - Future agenda items

- 1. Presentation on the status on Onion Creek Flood-clean up efforts and work with the other jurisdictions that border Onion Creek.**
- 2. Report on Imagine Austin and Codenext**
- 3. Request that the Environmental Board be notified when meetings of the Joint Environmental Board and Parks Board are held.**

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mary Gay Maxwell adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

The Environmental Board may take items in any order, and may take action on any item except citizen's communication. Direct any questions on this agenda or the Board to Marilla J. Shepherd, 974-3443 of the Watershed Protection Department. The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided. Please call 974-3443 for information. For a sign language interpreter, please call immediately



ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MOTION 020513 005a

Date: February 5, 2014

Subject: Creation of a new Environmental board Committee focused on Air Quality

Motioned By: Jennifer Walker

Seconded By: Jim Schissler

Whereas, Austin's air quality is at risk of non-attainment

And whereas, there is no Board or Commission vehicle to monitor the Air Quality status, and programs.

Therefore, the Environmental Board recommends creation of an Air Quality Committee

Vote

5-0-0-2

For: Deegan, Schissler, Smith and Walker

Against:

Abstain:

Absent: Neely and Perales

Approved By:

Dr. Mary Gay Maxwell
Environmental Board Chair